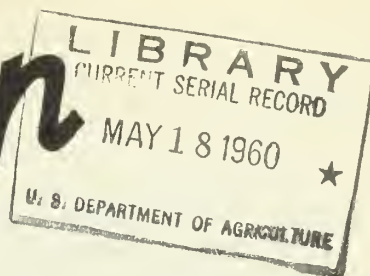


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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



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GREECE RAISES DUTY ON FROZEN POULTRY IMPORTS.--Effective April 27, 1960, Greece increased the ad valorem duty on frozen poultry from 15 percent to 30 percent. The duty, surtax, and other charges will now be about 12 cents per pound depending on c.i.f. value. The United States became Greece's largest supplier of poultry meat in 1959, when exports rose to 0.8 million pounds from 0.3 million in 1958. In both years, about 70 percent were frozen broilers and fryers. Total Greek imports in 1959 were 1.2 million pounds, compared with 0.8 million in 1958.

CUBA AND JAPAN SIGN TRADE AGREEMENT.--Cuba and Japan recently signed a 3-year trade agreement that replaces the provisional modus vivendi which previously regulated trade between the two nations. The agreement provides for Japanese purchases of 450,000 tons of sugar annually, an amount about equal to their average annual imports of the past 5 years. Cuba has agreed to try to double its imports from Japan, but is not bound to increase any specific import. A method for controlling Cuban imports of Japanese textiles has been developed, replacing the old tariff restrictions, but details are not yet available.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO SALES WELL UNDERWAY IN RHODESIA

During the first 2 weeks (through April 14) of 1960 auction sales at Salisbury, Rhodesian flue-cured tobacco prices averaged the equivalent of 33.2 U. S. cents per pound. For the corresponding period of 1959, prices averaged the equivalent of 24.1 cents. About 8.5 million pounds were sold this year during the opening 2 weeks.

DENMARK'S TOBACCO CONSUMPTION CONTINUES TO INCREASE

Cigarette consumption in Denmark totaled 4.7 billion pieces in 1959--up 400 million, or 9.3 percent, from 1958. Consumption of cigars, cheroots, and cigarillos also rose; it totaled 923 million pieces, compared with 869 million the previous year. More snuff also was used in 1959 than in 1958. The only categories of tobacco products showing declines were smoking tobacco and chewing tobacco, and these drops were relatively moderate.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS: Denmark, consumption as indicated by tax-paid withdrawals 1956-59

Kind of product	: 1956	: 1957	: 1958	: 1959
Cigarettes (million pieces).....	3,900	4,000	4,300	4,700
Cigars and cigarillos (million pieces).....	840	831	869	923
Smoking and cut tobacco (1,000 pounds).....	5,655	5,512	5,677	5,401
Chewing and snuff (1,000 pounds).....	1,660	1,574	1,556	1,565

Trade sources.

AMERICAN-TYPE CIGARETTES GAINING POPULARITY IN EGYPT

American-blended type cigarettes continued to gain in popularity in Egypt last year. This type of cigarette accounted for 54 percent of Egypt's total manufacture of all tobacco products, compared with 51 percent in 1958 and 42 percent in 1957. More and more of the tobacco used in these cigarettes, however, is coming from non-U. S. sources, including Communist China, India, Italy, Japan, Yugoslavia, and Bulgaria.

American-type cigarettes are rapidly displacing straight oriental brands. As recently as 1953, output of oriental cigarettes exceeded production of American-type; in 1959, the latter were nearly 9 times as important as oriental.

AUSTRALIAN IMPORTS OF TOBACCO SHOW FURTHER DECLINE

Australian imports of unmanufactured tobacco dropped to 37.5 million pounds in 1959--12 percent below 1958, and 18 percent below 1957.

The United States remained the largest source, supplying 25.4 million pounds, or 68 percent of the 1959 total. The Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was next, with 11.1 million pounds.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Australia, imports by country of origin,
1957-59

Country of origin	1957	1958	1959
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United States.....	34,024	31,363	25,363
Rhodesias-Nyasaland.....	9,255	10,815	11,087
Union of South Africa.....	19	46	625
Mozambique.....	454	299	117
Cuba.....	28	100	52
Turkey.....	2	56	50
Canada.....	1,604	24	31
Others.....	88	123	157
Total.....	45,474	42,826	37,482

As a record postwar crop of tobacco has been harvested this year (about 20 million pounds), imports in 1960 are likely to decline further.

Tobacco manufacturers are encouraged to use Australian-grown leaf, in lieu of imported, by a mixing regulation which provides for reduced rates of duty on foreign leaf to be blended with specified minimum percentages of domestic tobacco. The government has raised the minimum percentage requirement consistently in recent years. For the 12 months beginning July 1, 1960, the percentages are 28.5 for cigarettes, and 24.5 for cut tobaccos. Increases in the mixing percentages are likely for 1961-62.

INRA ABSORBS CUBAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The Cuban Council of Ministers has approved a law incorporating the Cuban Industrial and Agricultural Development Bank (BANFAIC) into the structure of the National Agrarian Reform Institute (INRA). A Department of Agricultural and Industrial Credit will be created in INRA to carry out the functions of the former BANFAIC.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES: Wholesale prices at specified markets,
with comparisons
(U. S. cents per pound)

Country, market, and description	Butter				Cheese			
	Quotations				Quotations			
	Cur-: Month : Year				Cur-: Month : Year			
	1960	rent	earlier	earlier	1960	rent	earlier	earlier
United Kingdom (London)								
New Zealand, finest	Mar.31	38.7	43.8	36.2				
Australian choicest	Mar.31	38.4	43.4	35.9				
New Zealand, finest white								
Australian choicest white					Mar.31	28.9	30.8	36.4
					Mar.31	27.6	29.5	35.8
Australia (Sydney)								
Choicest butter	Mar.31	48.5	48.5	48.5				
Choicest cheddar					Mar.31	29.2	29.2	29.2
Irish Republic (Dublin)								
Creamery butter	Mar.31	54.8	54.8	54.8				
Cheese					Mar.31	30.8	30.8	30.8
Denmark (Copenhagen)	Mar.24	40.2	46.0	39.6				
France (Paris)								
Charentes creamery	Mar.28	64.8	74.0	70.5				
Germany (Kempten)								
Markenbutter	Mar.30	63.1	64.7	66.8				
United States								
92-score creamery (N.Y.)	Mar.30	59.0	59.0	59.0				
Cheddar (Wisconsin)					Mar.30	36.2	36.2	33.0
Netherlands (Leeuwarden)								
Creamery butter	Mar.30	42.0	52.5	38.4				
Full cream Gouda					Mar.25	20.6	22.4	22.6
Edam, 40 percent					Mar.25	18.5	21.1	21.1
Belgium (Hasselt)	Mar.31	73.9	78.1	74.5				
Canada (Montreal)								
1st grade creamery	Mar.26	67.3	67.3	66.6				
Ontario white					Mar.26	32.6	32.6	36.2

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, the Commonwealth Economic Committee; and the Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

FROST DAMAGES FRENCH PRUNES

Preliminary information indicates that recent frosts caused light damage to French fruits, including plums and prunes in the southwest.

GHANA'S COCOA EXPORTS
LARGER IN 1959

Ghana exported 560 million pounds of cocoa beans in 1959, compared with 424 million in 1958. Value of the 1959 exports was \$192.6 million. The United States was the largest purchaser, followed by West Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

In addition to cocoa beans, Ghana shipped 1.3 million pounds of cocoa butter and 15.0 million pounds of cocoa paste in 1959. These shipments were primarily to the United Kingdom, the United States, and the Netherlands.

KENYA COFFEE PRICES
HIGHER THIS SEASON

The first 305,000 bags sold from Kenya's 1959-60 coffee crop (about 75 percent of the country's total production) brought 52.4 cents per pound, compared with 50.3 cents for corresponding sales in 1958-59. The 5,800-acre expansion in 1959-60 acreage was the sharpest annual increase yet. Area planted by European growers now amounts to about 67,000 acres, while the African-grown crop is on 26,000 acres.

COLOMBIA AIDS FIQUE PRODUCERS

Colombia's 1959 crop of fique fiber (a fiber of the amaryllis family) was 35.3 million pounds--about 30 percent more than output in most of recent years. Fique grows wild in many sections of the country, but in 1959 about 74,000 acres were planted for fiber for use in making coffee bags.

Fique has been cultivated in Colombia for about 25 years, but during the past 15 years the government has showed little interest in developing the industry. However, in August 1959 the Agricultural Bank started a fique development program in the western part of the country. Credit and technical assistance were extended in the Departments of Antioquia, Santander, and Cauca, which together produce 70 percent of the crop. Aid is to be extended to other departments later.

The bank estimates a deficit of at least 20 million pounds of bagging fibers in Colombia. Formerly, jute was preferred for bags because it was less harsh in texture than fique, but the government is now favoring fique by prohibiting jute imports. Most of the fique fiber is laboriously processed by hand, but the industry could be expanded to a point that would warrant mechanization. Six factories are now manufacturing bags.

GREECE PLANS SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN SUGAR

Greek plans call for three sugar beet factories with a combined capacity about equal to the sugar needs of the country.

The contract for the first plant was signed December 10, 1959. This factory is to be built near Lorisa, in Thessaly, by two German firms. Completion is expected during the summer of 1961. The contract for the second plant was signed with a Polish company March 3, 1960. This refinery, to be located near Serres, in Eastern Macedonia, will probably be in operation the latter part of 1963. Negotiations are underway for construction of a third plant in the Doirani area, north of Thessaloniki.

The first two factories will probably have an annual slicing capacity of 200,000 metric tons of sugar beets yielding about 28,000 metric tons of refined sugar. These two mills will furnish about 2/3 of total sugar consumption. The third plant is expected to furnish most of the rest. It is planned to avoid possible surplus production by limiting contracts to estimated annual requirements.

SOUTH AFRICAN PRICES FOR
CANNING PEARS UNCHANGED

Canners in the Union of South Africa paid practically the same price for pears this season as in 1958-59, except for two grades of Packham's Triumph which were higher. As reported in Foreign Crops and Markets, April 25, prices for canning peaches and apricots were substantially reduced for the second successive season.

While larger packs of canned peaches and apricots have been forecast, no increase in the canned pear pack is expected; the crop was reported to be slightly lighter because of frost and hail.

Prices paid to producers by canners for pears delivered at the factory during the 1958-59 and 1959-60 seasons were as follows:

Varieties <u>1/</u>	Selected		Choice		Standard	
	1958-59	1959-60	1958-59	1959-60	1958-59	1959-60
	Per short ton		Per short ton		Per short ton	
Bon Chretien.....	\$81.20	\$81.20	\$67.20	\$67.20	\$36.40	\$36.40
Packham's Triumph.....	63.00	63.00	50.40	56.00	28.00	33.60
Other varieties <u>2/</u>	56.00	56.00	44.80	44.80	28.00	28.00

1/ A premium of \$2.80 per ton was paid by canners where delivery of a specific variety was stipulated. 2/ Only Buerre Hardy, Buerre Rose, Kieffer, and Comice were delivered for Selected and Choice grades in 1958-59, and other varieties than these four in Standard grade only.

INDONESIA'S 1959 COPRA, COPRA CAKE
EXPORTS UP; PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS DOWN

Indonesia's exports of copra in 1959 were up 12 percent from those of 1958. Shipments to Singapore fell from nearly three-fourths of the 1958 total to less than one-third of the 1959 exports. Shipments to Europe were nearly 5 times those of 1958, while exports to Asia were off about 40 percent.

Copra cake exports in 1959 rose 2 percent. The United Kingdom and West Germany were the major markets, taking one-half and 40 percent of the total, respectively.

Indonesian exports of palm oil in 1959 were down one-fifth from the previous year. Shipments to the Netherlands were only one-third of its 1958 purchases.

Palm kernel exports in 1959 were down 8 percent from 1958. No shipments were made to the Netherlands. Japan remained the leading market, taking nearly one-half of the total exports.

COPRA, COPRA CAKE, PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS: Indonesia, exports ^{1/} by country of destination, annual 1958 and 1959

Continent and country of destination	Copra		Copra cake	
	1958 ^{2/}	1959 ^{2/}	1958 ^{2/}	1959 ^{2/}
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
Europe:				
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	---	5,923	7,647	5,765
Denmark.....	---	583	3,127	1,860
France.....	3,253	1,031	292	---
Germany, West.....	957	14,332	30,346	46,202
Italy.....	1,996	3,346	194	296
Netherlands.....	---	---	3,248	---
Norway.....	---	984	---	---
Poland.....	---	---	---	969
Sweden.....	3,100	12,235	147	920
Switzerland.....	---	---	1,388	97
United Kingdom.....	1,968	14,019	67,053	59,317
Total.....	11,274	52,453	113,442	115,426
Asia:				
China, Mainland.....	---	2,000	---	---
Japan.....	854	2,559	---	---
Penang.....	20,084	20,093	189	49
Singapore.....	82,865	39,136	---	83
Total.....	103,803	63,788	189	132
Other.....	---	3/ 12,915	102	4/ 148
Grand total.....	115,077	129,156	113,733	115,706

Continent and country of destination	Palm oil		Palm kernels	
	1958 ^{2/}	1959 ^{2/}	1958 ^{2/}	1959 ^{2/}
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
North America:				
United States.....	1,762	696	---	---
Total.....	1,762	696	---	---
Europe:				
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	13,119	20,089	9,804	8,722
Denmark.....	---	---	595	224
France.....	---	649	---	995
Germany, West.....	11,170	22,820	6,150	2,682
Italy.....	8,692	8,873	---	---
Netherlands.....	76,148	25,439	4,046	---
Poland.....	---	---	---	111
United Kingdom.....	560	441	163	3,193
Total.....	109,689	78,311	20,758	15,927
Asia:				
Japan.....	9,459	18,789	14,925	17,049
Penang.....	7,156	9,640	2,385	2,750
Philippines.....	7,156	5,438	---	---
Singapore.....	9,270	---	1,098	---
Total.....	33,041	33,867	18,408	19,799
Oceania:				
Australia.....	612	712	---	---
New Zealand.....	---	110	---	278
Total.....	612	822	---	278
Grand total.....	145,104	113,696	39,166	36,004

^{1/} Net weight. ^{2/} Preliminary. ^{3/} 1,597 tons to Central America and 11,318 tons to the United States. ^{4/} All to the United States.

Compiled from official sources.

BELGIUM IMPORTING MORE SOYBEANS

Belgium imported a record 2.8 million bushels of soybeans in 1959, and imports in 1960 may be even larger if outlets for soybean oil continue to be developed. More than 98 percent of the 2.8 million bushels were from the United States. Total imports in 1958 were only 1.4 million bushels.

The increase in soybean imports stems from the opening of a new soybean crushing plant in Antwerp last year. Officials of the new plant report that the lack of a ready market for soybean oil is the only limitation to processing more soybeans, as the meal produced is easily absorbed by the local mixed feed industry.

An extensive campaign has been in progress for the last 3 years to encourage the use of soybean oil as a table oil, in margarine, and in salad dressings. Evidently the campaign has been successful. Consumption of soybean oil last year is estimated at 15,385 short tons, compared with 7,335 tons in 1958 and 3,690 tons in 1957.

CHILE'S IMPORT NEEDS FOR
EDIBLE OIL SLACKEN

Chile will import an estimated 7,300 short tons of edible vegetable oils this year. Imports in 1959 totaled 13,200 tons, and 17,750 tons in 1958. Trade sources report that about 4,600 tons of U.S. soybean oil were imported in the first 3 months of this year, leaving only 2,700 tons to be imported in the last 9 months. Prospects are good for importation of U.S. soybean oil to cover at least part of the remaining 1960 needs.

The downtrend in imports results from a continuing expansion of domestic oilseed crops--mainly sunflower seed and rapeseed. Sunflower seed production in 1960 is estimated at 71,650 short tons, against 68,565 tons in 1959; rapeseed production may reach 30,000 tons, an increase of 50 percent from the 20,700-ton outturn in 1959. Earlier expectations by the oilseed trade that imports would be negligible in 1960 failed to materialize because 1960 oilseed crops are below the output forecast last fall.

PHILIPPINE COPRA SHIPMENTS
TO FRANCE REPORTED

A Marseilles report states that first-quarter French imports of Philippine copra were of some importance in 1959 and 1960, a fact not disclosed by first-quarter Philippine export statistics, published in Foreign Crops and Markets, April 18.

While monthly and quarterly figures by country of origin are not available for French imports, it is noted that France imported 7,320 long tons of copra from the Philippines in the first half of 1959 and 12,130 long tons in all of 1959. The reports from Marseilles indicate that copra imports from the Philippines during the first quarter of 1960 may have been at a lesser rate than last year.

NICARAGUA'S SESAME SEED EXPORTS CONTINUE TO RISE

Nicaraguan exports of sesame seed in 1959 totaled 9,560 short tons, an increase of 2,551 tons from 1958. Trade sources indicate that exports in 1960 may exceed 10,000 tons, based on estimates of the crop harvested December 1959 to March 1960. However, the Ministry of Agriculture estimated the 1959-60 crop at only 9,000 tons, indicating a drop in export availabilities. Almost all the crop is exported except for a small quantity retained for seed.

The United States was again the major market for Nicaragua's sesame seed in 1959, taking 4,408 short tons, against 4,453 tons in 1958. Larger shipments to Venezuela accounted for the expansion in exports--3,172 tons, compared with only 110 tons in 1958. In both 1958 and 1959 most of the other shipments were to Japan.

AUSTRIAN VEGETABLE OIL CONSUMPTION TO CHANGE LITTLE IN 1960

Austrian consumption of edible vegetable oils in 1960 is expected to increase slightly, but a further decline in the use of vegetable oils in soap will tend to offset the gain. Total consumption in 1960 is forecast at 80,000 short tons--70,000 tons edible and 10,000 industrial. In 1959 consumption was 79,950 tons, of which 69,100 tons were edible and 10,850 tons were industrial.

Vegetable oil consumption in 1955 was 48,300 tons of edible oils and 15,300 tons of industrial oils. Population has been relatively stable at around 7 million. Thus, per capita consumption of edible oils rose from 13.8 pounds in 1955 to an estimated 20.0 pounds in 1960, while industrial use fell from 4.4 pounds to slightly less than 3 pounds.

The increased usage of edible vegetable oils has been at the expense of animal fats. Total and per capita consumption of edible fats and oils has been fairly constant at around 155,000 tons and 45 pounds, respectively, in the last 5 years. Austrian nutrition experts believe that the trend away from animal fats will continue, but at a greatly diminished rate. They also believe that the 45-pound intake is a practical maximum, and that emphasis in the future will be on raising the quality of fats and oils in the Austrian diet.

The continuing decline in industrial use of vegetable oils stems from consumer preference for synthetic detergents over soap.

Since Austria produces less than 5 percent of its vegetable oil needs from domestic sources, imports will continue to increase slightly. Imports in 1960 are estimated at 76,500 tons, including around 1,500 tons imported as oil-bearing material and the rest as oil. Imports in 1959 totaled 76,251 tons. Most of the imported oil requires some local processing because the tariff structure discourages imports of ready-to-use products such as margarine and shortening.

DENMARK IMPORTS ONE-THIRD MORE OILCAKE AND MEAL

Denmark's 1959 imports of oilcake and meal increased one-third over 1958. Moreover, production rose nearly 50 percent to push total supplies up 30 percent to 1,078,300 tons, compared with 831,400 in 1958. Consumption of oilcakes and meals in 1959 increased more than one-fourth, as domestic supplies of other feeds were reduced by drought. The larger 1959 imports consisted primarily of cottonseed, soybean, and sunflowerseed cakes and meals. The United States supplied 44,377 tons or 6 percent of the total, compared with 8,436 tons or less than 2 percent in 1958.

OILCAKE AND MEAL: Denmark, supply and distribution, 1958 and 1959

Item	1958	1959
	<u>1,000 metric tons</u>	<u>1,000 metric tons</u>
Beginning stocks, January 1.....	98.2	71.9
Production.....	182.6	270.6
Imports.....	550.6	735.8
Total supply.....	831.4	1,078.3
Exports.....	64.9	92.1
Consumption.....	694.6	881.0
Ending stocks, December 31.....	71.9	105.2
Total distribution.....	831.4	1,078.3

SOUTH WEST AFRICA STEPS UP FISH OIL PRODUCTION

Fish oil production last year in South West Africa reached a record 19,377 short tons, an increase of 7,000 tons from 1958. In 1960, production is expected to be below 1959 but somewhat above 1958. South West Africa normally accounts for around one-half of the fish oil produced in the Union of South Africa.

The record 1959 output resulted from (1) a permanent increase in the annual catch limit for pilchard and musbanker of 10,000 tons to 260,000 tons, and a temporary increase of 40,000 additional tons, and (2) a reduction of 25 percent in production of canned pilchard. The government increased the catch limit so that the 6 processing plants at Walvis Bay could step up fish meal production and thus compensate for declining world prices. The 25-percent reduction in canned pilchard output was a planned move to reduce high inventories on hand at the beginning of 1959.

Canned pilchard production this year is expected to return to the 1958 level. However, the catch limit this year has been set at 310,000 tons, up 50,000 tons from the permanent annual limit. The decision to increase the limit again was prompted by relatively low world fish meal prices.

WEST GERMANY'S 1959 IMPORTS OF OILCAKES AND MEALS RISE 28 PERCENT

Feed shortages and larger cattle numbers in West Germany during 1959 led to a 28-percent increase in imports of oilcakes and meals, as well as a 22-percent rise in the production of these valuable protein supplements from imported oilseeds. Total 1959 oilcake and meal supplies were up 22 percent from the previous year; as total consumption increased only 20 percent, carryover stocks more than doubled.

Of the cake and meal imports, 23 percent were palm kernel, 19 percent linseed, 16 percent coconut, 10 percent peanut, 8 percent sunflower seed, 4 percent soybean, and 20 percent other. The United States supplied 5 percent of the 1959 imports, compared with less than 1 percent in 1958. However, a large percentage of West Germany's total oilcake and meal supply is obtained from the crushing of imported U.S. soybeans.

Purchases of mixed feed for cattle increased 27 percent in 1959, and total consumption of mixed feeds exceeded 3 million tons for the first time. An estimated 730,000 tons of oilcakes and meals were used in mixed feed and about 840,000 tons were fed directly, mostly to cattle.

OILCAKE AND MEAL: West Germany, supply and distribution, 1958 and 1959

Item	1958	1959
	1,000 metric tons	1,000 metric tons
Beginning stocks, January 1.....	75	55
Production:		
From imported seeds.....	781	955
From domestic seeds.....	33	33
Imports.....	674	862
Total supply.....	1,563	1,905
Exports.....	200	221
Consumption.....	1,308	1,570
Ending stocks, December 31.....	55	114
Total distribution.....	1,563	1,905

PORTUGAL'S WHEAT PROSPECTS POOR

Prospects for Portugal's wheat crop are unfavorable again this year. Excessive rains during the past few months have caused heavy damage to the crop and it appears that the harvest will be well below average, as it was last year.

Grain crops in general show deficient growth and yellow appearance, with weed infestation unusually high. Heavy rains and flooding have not only made the outlook for winter grains poor, but have interfered with seeding of spring grains over much of the country.

WEATHER HELPS AUSTRALIAN RICE CROP

Highly satisfactory growing conditions have improved Australia's 1959-60 rice yields. If weather continues favorable, the April-May harvest may reach a new record of 2,950,000 cwt. of rough rice. Last year's record crop was 2,850,000 cwt.

Acreage in New South Wales, the traditional rice area, approximates that of 1958-59, and production there is forecast at about 2,800,000 cwt. Prospects in the Northern Territory apparently are good. Production on an estimated 6,500 acres of the new rice area in northern and western areas is forecast at 150,000 cwt.

Australian marketing authorities are concerned over possible over-production. Alternative crops, especially cotton, are therefore being investigated.

RICE: Australia's acreage, production and exports, averages
1945-46/54-55, annual 1955-56 to 1959-60

Year	Acreage	Yield per acre	Production		Exports <u>2/</u> (in terms of milled)
			Rough	Milled	
				equivalent: 1/	
	1,000 acres	Pounds	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Averages:					
1945-46/49-50.....	31	4,042	1,253	852	613
1950-51/54-55.....	37	4,603	1,703	1,158	707
1955-56.....	41	4,841	1,985	1,350	743
1956-57.....	51	3,535	1,803	1,224	674
1957-58.....	47	5,013	2,356	1,632	945
1958-59.....	56	5,089	2,850	1,738	1,145
1959-60.....	58	5,086	2,950	2,006	1,350

1/ Rough rice converted to terms of milled at 68 percent. 2/ Calendar year in which crop is harvested.

Compiled from official sources, except for crop data for north and west Australia, and the 1959-60 forecast.

Rice exports in 1960 are expected to be around 1,350,000 cwt. of milled rice, compared with the previous record of 1,145,000 cwt. in 1959 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 2). Little or no old-crop rice has been held over. New markets have been developed in the Middle East, Canada, and Pacific areas. Early in 1960, a shipment of 198,400 cwt. of milled rice was sent to Okinawa. The introduction of regular shipping between Australia and Okinawa should ensure a degree of permanency to this trade.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA HARVESTING SMALLER FEED GRAIN CROPS

The Union of South Africa's corn harvest now underway is estimated at about 130 million bushels, compared with 144 million a year ago. This decrease of 9 percent is attributed to severe drought in most of the major corn-producing areas.

A record crop had been expected this year, but drought beginning in January reduced prospects sharply, especially in northern Free State and western Transvaal. Use of corn for food is not keeping pace with population growth because more wheat products are being used. However, use of corn for feeding is increasing.

Production of grain sorghums is also much less than in 1959. The preliminary forecast of 6.8 million bushels is 20 percent less than last year's harvest of 8.5 million bushels. Acreage appears to be smaller and the drought has reduced yields. Most of the production is for domestic use as food, but some surplus is exported.

U.S. INCREASES WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS

Wheat and flour exports from the United States during July-March 1959-60 totaled 348 million bushels, approximately 7.7 percent more than during the first 9 months in 1958-59.

Shipments were larger to the Western Hemisphere (up about 12.7 million bushels) and to Africa (up about 32.7 million bushels). However, shipments to Europe were down about 22 million bushels, with substantial reductions to West Germany, the United Kingdom, and Yugoslavia.

Wheat exports were up approximately 12.5 million bushels from the 266 million exported during the first 9 months in 1958-59. Larger shipments to Brazil, Pakistan, Turkey, and Egypt accounted for most of the increase. Although shipments to India during July-March 1959-60 were considerably below the comparable period a year earlier, they are expected to increase in the next few months.

Egypt was the largest buyer of flour during July-March 1959-60, taking about 20 percent of the total, or 14.5 million bushels (grain equivalent), compared with 1.5 million bushels during the same period a year earlier. More flour was also exported to Italy, Ceylon, and Indonesia. On the other hand, less went to Venezuela and the Philippines, where new flour mills are operating.

Preliminary estimates for April indicate that wheat and flour exports during July-April 1959-60 totaled approximately 406 million bushels, more than 12 percent above the 361 million exported during the first 10 months of the previous season.

WHEAT AND FLOUR: U.S. exports by country of destination,
July-March 1958-59 and July-March 1959-60

Country of destination	July-March 1958-59			July-March 1959-60		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
Western Hemisphere:						
British West Indies	19	2,240	2,259	46	1,409	1,455
Central America	260	3,177	3,437	1,794	2,754	4,548
Cuba	3,647	2,086	5,733	3,717	1,761	5,478
Bolivia	—	376	376	—	1,502	1,502
Brazil	16,382	—	16,382	27,515	25	27,540
Colombia	2,212	649	2,861	815	547	1,362
Peru	4,941	474	5,415	3,217	229	3,446
Venezuela	2,246	2,282	4,528	6,467	297	6,764
Others	1,930	3,048	4,978	3,582	2,987	6,569
Total	31,637	14,332	45,969	47,153	11,511	58,664
Europe:						
Austria	805	84	889	1,240	85	1,325
Belgium-Luxembourg	3,290	13	3,303	2,287	14	2,301
Germany, West	14,859	406	15,265	8,510	429	8,939
Greece	1,690	1,188	2,878	128	1,694	1,822
Italy	—	4,626	4,626	546	6,185	6,731
Netherlands	6,034	2,785	8,819	4,728	2,823	7,551
Norway	3,135	575	3,710	1,657	343	2,000
Poland	9,499	175	9,674	11,842	480	12,322
Sweden	2,113	25	2,138	75	42	117
United Kingdom	17,657	2,613	20,270	15,097	543	15,640
Yugoslavia	17,281	2,854	20,135	8,999	2,590	11,589
Others	3,502	647	4,149	2,520	1,308	3,828
Total	79,865	15,991	95,856	57,629	16,536	74,165
Asia:						
Ceylon	—	1,777	1,777	—	2,563	2,563
India	94,792	44	94,836	77,516	77	77,593
Indonesia	—	2/	2/	10	3,659	3,669
Israel	5,256	118	5,374	5,876	170	6,046
Japan	22,547	1,990	24,537	20,142	2,252	22,394
Jordan	367	453	820	1,922	647	2,569
Korea	7,218	1,630	8,848	7,846	1,396	9,242
Lebanon	3,017	1,605	4,622	407	2,212	2,619
Pakistan	9,237	171	9,408	17,826	227	18,053
Philippines	579	6,571	7,150	915	3,416	4,331
Saudi Arabia	56	1,823	1,879	46	2,102	2,148
Taiwan (Formosa)	4,911	710	5,621	6,927	781	7,708
Turkey	1,003	—	1,003	7,805	1	7,806
Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia :	—	2,447	2,447	2/	1,636	1,636
Others	1,535	1,640	3,175	2,590	1,737	4,327
Total	150,518	20,979	171,497	149,828	22,876	172,704
Africa:						
Canary Islands	—	—	—	1,597	4	1,601
Egypt	2	1,529	1,531	17,003	14,030	31,033
Nigeria	—	1,489	1,489	—	1,664	1,664
Tunisia	1,568	17	1,585	1,945	37	1,982
Union of South Africa ...	386	—	386	1,097	3	1,100
Others	2,159	2,581	4,740	2,406	2,652	5,058
Total	4,115	5,616	9,731	24,048	18,390	42,438
Oceania	—	25	25	—	31	31
Unspecified	—	49	49	—	—	—
World total 3/.....	266,135	56,992	323,127	278,658	69,344	348,002

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat (grain equivalent). 2/ Less than 500 bushels. 3/ Includes shipments for relief or charity.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

ARGENTINA AGAIN SHORT ON LENTILS

Few, if any, lentile will be exported from Argentina in 1960. For the fourth consecutive year, the crop has been severely damaged by rust, (Uro Myces). The 1960 harvest, almost completed, is estimated at 4,600 tons, compared with the 1950-54 average of 29,000 tons. The 1960 area harvested, estimated at 68,000 acres, is almost the same as the 1950-54 average.

Argentine has been one of the world's largest exporters of lentils; shipments reached 20,000 tons in some years in the early 1950's. The United States, the Netherlands, and West Germany were among the larger importers. Because of the rust, there is now a U. S. embargo on imports from Latin America.

SWEDEN USES MORE COTTON THIS SEASON

Sweden's cotton consumption, at 71,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the first half of this season (August-January) was up slightly from the 70,000 bales used in the corresponding period last season. Further improvement is likely in the last half, as burdensome stocks of finished goods have been worked off and the volume of orders on hand is larger than last season. Indications are that total consumption during 1959-60 will be around 5 percent above the 128,000 bales used in 1958-59.

Consumption of U.S. cotton during August-January was 42,000 bales (71 percent of the total), compared with 56,000 bales (80 percent) in the corresponding months a year earlier.

Cotton imports during August-January 1959-60 totaled 50,000 bales, down 12 percent from the 57,000 bales imported in the first half of last season. However, in view of prospective increases in consumption and the need to rebuild cotton stocks, imports should pick up during the latter part of 1959-60, and total imports for the season (August-July) will probably be well above the 1958-59 level of 93,000 bales.

The United States is by far the largest source of Sweden's imports; it accounted for 36,000 bales or 72 percent of the total in the period under review, against 38,000 bales or 67 percent of the total a year earlier. Quantities imported from principal sources other than the United States during August-January 1959-60, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 4,000 bales (8,000); Belgian Congo 3,000 (2,000); Peru 3,000 (3,000); and Egypt 2,000 (1,000).

By January 31, 1960, cotton stocks in Sweden had dropped to 58,000 bales--27 percent below beginning stocks of 79,000 bales on August 1, 1959. U. S. cotton constituted 63 percent of the January 31 stocks, compared with 76 percent on August 1, 1959.

BURMA SENDING RICE TO PAKISTAN

The Burmese Government reportedly has agreed to supply Pakistan with 100,000 long tons of rice. The rice will be sent in three installments beginning this year.

U. S. SHARE OF WORLD COTTON MARKET
MUCH LARGER THAN LAST YEAR

The proportion of U. S. cotton taken by most foreign import markets in 1959-60 has increased substantially from a year earlier.

The U. S. share of total imports during the first half of the current season was larger in 13 of the 15 major cotton consuming countries for which data are shown in the accompanying table. Both the share and volume of U. S. imports increased in 12 of the countries listed, including Japan, France, United Kingdom, and West Germany.

Early depletion of exportable supplies of cotton in other major producing countries probably will result in further increases in the U. S. share in most import markets, as total U. S. exports reach or exceed the expected 6.5 million-bale mark, compared with 2.8 million in 1958-59.

COTTON: Imports into specified markets, and United States share, portions of 1958-59 and 1959-60 marketing years as shown

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Importing country	Reporting period	1958-59			1959-60		
		Total	U. S.	U. S. share	Total	U. S.	U. S. share
		1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
		bales	bales	Percent	bales	bales	Percent
Austria.....	:Aug-Jan.	: 50	: 28	: 56	: 60	: 18	: 30
Belgium.....	:Aug-Dec.	: 163	: 39	: 24	: 184	: 51	: 28
Canada.....	:Aug-Dec.	: 100	: 27	: 27	: 127	: 85	: 67
Denmark.....	:Aug-Feb.	: 19	: 8	: 42	: 31	: 15	: 48
Finland.....	:Aug-Mar.	: 44	: 15	: 34	: 66	: 26	: 39
France.....	:Aug-Feb.	: 662	: 239	: 36	: 917	: 348	: 38
Germany, West..	:Aug-Jan.	: 591	: 119	: 20	: 836	: 193	: 23
Hong Kong.....	:Aug-Jan.	: 151	: 58	: 38	: 167	: 84	: 50
India.....	:Aug-Dec.	: 102	: 7	: 7	: 144	: 23	: 16
Italy.....	:Aug-Jan.	: 367	: 194	: 53	: 400	: 130	: 33
Japan.....	:Aug-Feb.	: 1,250	: 360	: 29	: 1,827	: 721	: 39
Netherlands....	:Aug-Jan.	: 142	: 17	: 12	: 187	: 60	: 32
Sweden.....	:Aug-Jan.	: 57	: 38	: 67	: 50	: 36	: 72
Switzerland....	:Aug-Feb.	: 95	: 11	: 12	: 141	: 57	: 40
United Kingdom.	:Aug-Feb.	: 561	: 179	: 32	: 841	: 334	: 40

U. S. COTTON EXPORTS AT HIGH LEVEL IN MARCH

U. S. exports of cotton (all types) in March 1960 were 767,000 running bales; 284,000 bales were exported in March 1959, and 839,000 bales in February 1960.

Exports during the first 8 months (August-March) of the 1959-60 season totaled 4,815,000 running bales-- $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the 1,931,000 bales shipped during the corresponding period last season.

Comparable figures in 500-pound gross weight bales, and destinations of the August-March 1959-60 exports, will be published in Foreign Crops and Markets when available.

WEST INDIES SEA ISLAND COTTON INDUSTRY FACES CRISIS

Low prices offered by spinners for raw Sea Island (extra long staple) cotton have created a crisis for producers in the federation of The West Indies.

Spinners in the United Kingdom, who formerly purchased all West Indian supplies by agreement, have discontinued this arrangement. The spinners claimed that they suffered heavy losses because the prices they paid were high compared with prices of other cotton of similar grades, and they cut their offered prices by about one-third. Consequently, many growers have refused to plant cotton and production has fallen in all the islands. In an effort to solve the problem, the federal government has proposed the establishment of a Marketing Board to stockpile cotton when prices are low.

The West Indies Sea Island cotton industry is small and is concentrated in a few islands. About 80 percent of the exports of Montserrat have traditionally been cotton, and the crop is important in Antigua and Nevis. Exports in good years have run between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 million pounds of clean lint worth roughly \$1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$2 million. Sales abroad this year may be only \$0.6 million.

U. S. exports of upland-type cotton to Jamaica and Trinidad (members of the federation) amounted to about 5,200 bales (500 pounds gross) worth \$648,000 in 1958, and 3,900 bales worth \$436,400 in 1959. Mills on these islands do not use Sea Island cotton.

AUSTRALIAN BEEF SHIPMENTS TO U.S. IN APRIL

Five ships left Australian ports in April with 10,485,440 pounds of frozen beef, as follows:

Ship	: Sailing date : from Australia:	: Destination 1/:	: Quantity : (1,000 lbs.)
Port Lincoln.....	: April 13	: New York	: 6,707
		: Philadelphia	: 488
		: Boston	: 614
		: Chicago	: 1,189
Port St. John.....	: April 14	: New York	: 170
		: Boston	: 22
		: Chicago	: 229
Orsova.....	: April 23	: Los Angeles	: 110
		: San Francisco	: 45
Mariposa.....	: April 23	: Los Angeles	: 157
		: San Francisco	: 390
Pioneer Isle.....	: April 24	: New York	: 365

1/ Cities listed indicate locations of purchasers and are usually also the port of arrival and general market area for the meat; in some cases, meat may be diverted to other areas for sale.

ARGENTINE BEEF EXPORT PRICE SETS RECORD

During the week ended April 25, 1960, the export price (f.o.b. Buenos Aires) of Argentine chilled carcass beef was $25\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound, 9 percent about the $23\frac{1}{4}$ cents recorded for mid-March, and 19 percent above $21\frac{1}{4}$ cents in mid-February. The carcasses are roughly equal in quality to the top end of U. S. Good grade.

The price increase is largely due to the shortage of beef in the United Kingdom resulting from strikes in Argentine packing houses from March 15 through April 18.

COLOMBIA TO IMPORT BREEDING CATTLE FROM BRITAIN

The Colombian Red Poll Association has announced that it will import 110 head of cattle, probably Red Polls, from the United Kingdom. The purchase, valued at an estimated \$100,000, will be in exchange for coffee (see Foreign Crops and Markets, December 1, 1959), and will consist of 100 heifers and 10 bulls under 2 years old.

The first shipments are expected in Colombia within the next two months. They will be the first from any country other than the United States since Colombia removed its ban on imports of breeding stock in May 1959.

URUGUAYAN WOOL EXPORTS DROP IN OCTOBER-MARCH

Exports of Uruguayan wool during the first half of the 1959-60 season (October-March) were 58 percent below the same period last year. Total shipments of raw wool (greasy and scoured) through March were 38,536 bales, compared with 92,236 bales last year. Exports of tops, at 16,023 bales, were down 23 percent.

Exports in the early months of the season were practically nil as exporters awaited the abolition of multiple exchange rates in December. Also, shipments in the first half of last season were unusually large because of stock reduction.

The U.S.S.R. has purchased no Uruguayan wool this season, whereas during the first half of last season it was the largest buyer, taking 25,472 bales of grease wool. The United States has been the leading buyer of Uruguayan wool so far this marketing year, with purchases totaling 11,779 bales--28 percent less than last year. Communist China is the only country that has increased its purchases this season.

WOOL: Uruguayan exports by type and country of destination, October-March 1958-59 and 1959-60

Country of destination	1958-59			1959-60		
	Greasy	Scoured	Tops	Greasy	Scoured	Tops
	Bales 1/	Bales 1/	Bales 1/	Bales 1/	Bales 1/	Bales 1/
Sino-Soviet Bloc:						
Bulgaria.....	1,417	1,007	399	157	30	71
China, Mainland..	0	0	1,721	1,400	0	2,289
Czechoslovakia..	1,958	1,178	0	512	412	32
Hungary.....	3,596	489	3,234	397	0	646
Poland.....	753	444	904	655	0	641
Rumania.....	87	0	502	0	0	0
U.S.S.R.....	25,472	0	0	0	0	0
Total.....	33,283	3,118	6,760	3,121	432	3,679
Germany 2/.....	3,198	2,151	149	2,162	2,801	219
Italy.....	1,185	2,554	1,844	993	1,263	640
Netherlands.....	3,021	2,972	5,732	497	1,852	6,316
Switzerland.....	168	415	2,334	0	142	1,145
United Kingdom....	10,721	2,318	79	6,968	1,208	384
United States.....	11,919	4,031	313	8,364	1,720	1,695
Yugoslavia.....	3,011	1,326	873	1,035	308	415
Others.....	2,848	3,997	2,853	1,623	4,047	1,530
Grand total ..:	69,354	22,882	20,937	24,763	13,773	16,023

1/ Average bale weights are estimated as follows: greasy, 1,057 pounds; scoured, 550 pounds; tops, 660 pounds. 2/ No distinction is made between East and West Germany; however, most of the wool is exported to West Germany.

Source: La Exportacion del Uruguay.

MEXICAN IMPORTS OF MEAT RISE; EXPORTS DECLINE

Mexican imports of U. S. meats and hides rose sharply during 1959, but imports of lard and tallow and greases fell materially. Although Mexico is striving to increase production of livestock and meat products, domestic demand has been increasing faster than production. Mexican exports of cattle and beef have declined substantially from the high levels of 1958.

Mexico has greatly increased imports of U. S. breeding hogs to encourage pork production. Nevertheless, U. S. pork exports to Mexico rose from 5.8 million pounds in 1958 to 11.1 million pounds in 1959. Variety meat exports rose from 1 million pounds to over 3 million.

Mexico's trade policy is to protect domestic producers through high import tariffs and import controls. During 1959 additional restrictions were placed on imports of tallow and lard; imports of these items from the United States, the major source, dropped 68 and 35 percent, respectively.

The government has been faced with the problem that meat supplies have been inadequate in central and southern population centers at the same time that large cattle and beef exports have been made from northern Mexico to the United States. Export quotas and export taxes on cattle have been in effect for a number of years, and in May 1959 export taxes were imposed on boneless and carcass beef.

Indications are that the export quota of 1 million head (as cattle or beef) for the year ending September 30, 1960, will not be filled. Exports of cattle to the United States in 1959 totaled 488,000, the largest number for any year since 1941, but declined to 365,000 in 1959. Exports during the first 3 months of 1960 were 121,325, or 25 percent less than a year earlier.

Exports of beef to the United States in 1958 reached a record high of 73.7 million pounds but dropped to 48.5 million in 1959. As northern Mexican ranchers are building up breeding herds, supplies of beef have been lower; and higher income levels are increasing local beef prices.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS: United States-Mexican trade, 1957-59

Item	U.S. Imports from Mexico				U.S. Exports to Mexico			
	1957	1958	1959	Change 1958 to 1959	1957	1958	1959	Change 1958 to 1959
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	Percent	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	Percent
Meats:								
Beef and veal.....	12,876	73,740	48,541	-34	334	350	418	+19
Pork.....	81	26	42	+62	4,275	5,798	11,056	+91
Other meats.....	185	1,292	398	-69	809	340	447	+31
Total red meat.....	13,142	75,058	48,981	-35	5,418	6,488	11,921	+84
Variety meats.....	15	488	493	+1	2,031	1,013	3,150	+211
Horsemeat.....	--	--	--	--	--	52	39	-25
Lard.....	--	--	--	--	11,782	14,565	10,524	-27
Tallow and greases:								
Inedible.....	--	--	--	--	40,147	49,771	15,743	-68
Edible.....	--	--	--	--	798	372	241	-35
Hides and skins (pieces):	1,000 pcs.	1,000 pcs.	1,000 pcs.		1,000 pcs.	1,000 pcs.	1,000 pcs.	
Cattle.....	--	--	--	--	425	330	504	+53
Calf and kip.....	--	--	--	--	33	31	27	-13
Sheep and lamb.....	--	--	--	--	60	108	131	+21
Livestock:	Number	Number	Number		Number	Number	Number	
Cattle.....	336,477	488,241	365,456	-25	26,615	8,591	8,836	+3
Hogs.....	--	--	--	--	1,256	25	8,374	+33,396
Sheep and lambs.....	--	--	--	--	1,492	1,135	1,231	+8

U. S. IMPORTS OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS
CONTINUE DOWNWARD IN FEBRUARY

U. S. imports of livestock and meat products in February continued the January downtrend, although shipments of wool, variety meats, and cattle increased. Only casings, pork, mutton, and lamb showed increases from February 1959.

The 2-month total for January and February this year was well below January-February last year except for mutton, lamb, and casings. Mutton imports were up 12 percent from a year earlier, and lamb imports rose 196 percent. Canned and cooked hams and shoulders were 8 percent above the corresponding months in 1959. Cattle imports from Mexico declined further, but entries from Canada continued to rise.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: U.S. imports of selected items, February 1959 and 1960,
January-February 1959 and 1960, with percentage change

(Product weight basis)

Commodity	February		Percent change	January-February		Percent change
	1959	1960		1959	1960	
Red meats:	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
Fresh, frozen, canned, and	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>
cured beef and veal.....	38,944	33,232	-15	81,518	72,577	-11
Other meats 1/.....	9,957	2,280	-12	22,942	5,000	-78
Total beef and veal....	48,901	36,033	-26	104,460	77,577	-26
Pork.....	12,900	14,246	+10	31,304	29,303	-6
Mutton.....	2,425	3,038	+25	6,266	7,011	+12
Lamb.....	297	1,068	+260	1,007	2,982	+196
Total red meat.....	64,523	54,385	-16	143,037	116,873	-18
Variety meats.....	201	156	-22	339	268	-21
Sausage casings:						
Sheep and goat.....	384	402	+5	585	779	+33
Other natural.....	705	744	+6	1,691	1,604	-5
Wool (clean basis):						
Dutiable.....	10,441	8,290	-21	19,997	16,669	-16
Duty free.....	13,671	13,040	-5	33,921	25,468	-25
Total wool.....	24,112	21,330	-12	53,918	42,137	-22
Hides and skins (1,000 pieces):						
Cattle.....	84	29	-65	176	54	-69
Calf and kip.....	73	47	-36	297	104	-65
Sheep and lamb.....	2,332	1,306	-44	4,237	3,283	-23
Goat and kid.....	1,957	1,678	-14	4,533	3,305	-27
Live cattle (number) 3/.....	70,926	66,270	-7	156,837	112,887	-28

1/ Other meat, canned, prepared, or preserved, mostly salted boneless beef from South America during 1959.

2/ Includes 1,715,000 from Ireland, and 457,000 from Denmark.

3/ Includes cattle for breeding.

U.S. EXPORTS OF SOYBEANS, EDIBLE OILS AND OILSEED CAKES AND MEALS UP SHARPLY

Record quantities of U.S. soybeans and oilseed cakes and meals were exported during the first half of the current marketing year, October-March 1959-60. While exports of edible oils were up sharply from the previous year, they were one-fourth less than the record tonnage exported in the first six months of 1956-57.

SOYBEANS, EDIBLE OILS, AND OILSEED CAKES AND MEALS:

U.S. exports, year beginning October 1, 1957,
and 1958, October-March 1958-59 and 1959-60

Item	October-March			
	1957-58	1958-59 ^{1/}	1958-59 ^{1/}	1959-60 ^{1/}
	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels
Soybeans.....	85.5	110.1	60.8	75.8
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Edible oils:				
Soybean.....	804.0	930.4	314.6	256.6
Cottonseed.....	248.0	404.2	94.8	339.0
Total.....	1,052.0	1,334.6	409.4	595.6
Oil equivalent of soybeans.....	938.9	1,208.6	667.3	832.0
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
Cakes and meals:				
Soybean.....	300.0	512.2	290.1	412.1
Cottonseed.....	7.2	27.3	4.9	119.5
Linseed.....	5.9	31.2	12.6	47.6
Total ^{2/}	316.3	581.0	309.3	586.0
Meal equivalent of soybeans.....	2,000.9	2,608.7	1,440.4	1,780.6

^{1/} Preliminary.

^{2/} Includes peanut cake and meal and small quantities of other cakes and meals.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Soybean exports at 75.8 million bushels were 15 million more than the previous record set a year earlier. Most of the increase was in shipments to Europe, particularly the Netherlands, Denmark, France, and Italy. However, exports to Japan, the major market, Canada and Israel were up substantially.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Official Business

U.S. exports of edible oils (cottonseed and soybean oils) were 45 percent larger than in the first half of the previous year but were one-fourth less than the record 814.2 million pounds shipped in October-March 1956-57.

Edible oil shipments under Title I of Public Law 480 declined by 40 percent from shipments through March last season, but this drop was sharply offset by an increase in dollar sales.

Cottonseed oil exports were $3\frac{1}{2}$ times those of the comparable months last year, while soybean oil exports were down almost one-fifth. Highlights of the oil exports were the sharp increases in shipments to West Germany and the Netherlands which together more than offset the decline in soybean oil exports to Spain and Poland. Exports to West Germany, at 195.9 million pounds, were almost 5 times the quantity sent to that country in the first half of last year, while exports to the Netherlands, at 76.7 million pounds, were almost $3\frac{1}{2}$ times those of the previous year. Significant also was the 67 million pounds of edible oil sent to Turkey (compared with only 7 million a year earlier) and the 22 and 14 million pounds sent to Pakistan and Iran, respectively, in contrast to none a year earlier.

Exports of oilseed cakes and meals were almost 90 percent larger than last year. Exports of cottonseed meal were 24 times as large as a year earlier. Heaviest shipments went to Denmark, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands. Exports of soybean meal were up 40 percent; much of the increase was in takings by West Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands. Linseed meal exports were almost 4 times those of last year, mainly because of larger shipments to the Netherlands.